

British Mail Bags.

Forty letters were written last year in England for each man, woman, and child therein, thirty in Scotland, sixteen in Ireland, and thirty-six in Great Britain taken as a whole, against twenty-one in the United States, which comes next in the list of nations as a letter writer. But the English post-office was not only not dismayed at the contents of paper and oceans of ink represented by the 1,500,000,000 of letters delivered, but undertook, besides, so much of other varied business as to merit the title of the Governmental ragbag, where all odds and ends were indiscriminately thrown. It not only sent and still sends your letters, your papers, your telegrams, and your money, but will save the latter for you if you are so fortunate as to have any; or will sell you an annuity, if you wish to provide thus against old age, or will invest your money for you in Government bonds. When you wish to do any of these things, the post-office is most pleasant and respectful; it is your servant. But it has, alas, another aspect, grim and surly, where it is your master. It is a tax collector without rebate in the past or deduction in the future, and relentlessly mules one in certain sums for certain things. For instance, the mild and wholesome "home brew'd," which was wont in the past to wet the whistle of the thirsty pedestrian, can no longer be connected under one's own vine without first paying a yearly license of a dollar or two to the post-office; and the brewer, too, who makes hog-heads where the cottager or publican makes pints, must also contribute.

Man's four-footed friend, be he of high or low degree, is also ignominiously made the subject of license, and the owner of every dog must pay into the post-office a yearly offering of \$1.50. But, think you, in case of non-payment your faithful friend is snatched away from you by a lawless thief, a net or fasso? No, indeed! Your dog is left and you are the one imprisoned, and in prison you stay till you pay the license and such additional fine as the Magistrate may direct. It is needless to say that English streets are not disfigured by itinerant dog prisons, filled with suffering animals, which, of all the four-footed beings, deserve at the hand of the most gentlemanly and considerate man. I will say this for English law, that in this arresting the master, who is responsible, and ignoring the dog, who is blameless, it is more just and civilized than ours.

The post-office yearly demands of you \$3.50 for each male servant in your employ and \$10 for each carriage; you may be so fortunate as to own, and should you be so unhappy as to belong to an "elite aristocracy" and have a coat of arms, you may pay \$10 more and paint your crest on the panels of your coach. It is not necessary, though, to be lawfully entitled to a coat of arms in order to emblazon it on your equipage. Pay the tax and no questions are asked. And this reminds me of a story, for the truth of which I can vouch.

A certain Bristol doctor, having arrived at the dignity of a brougham, ordered such an equipage at the shop of a local manufacturer. When it was near completion, says the maker: "Well, doctor, shall we put your arms on the carriage?" "O, to be sure," was the answer. "Then send us a sketch of what they are," returned the maker, "and we will put them on." "Ah! but their selection I would prefer to leave entirely to you," said Esculap. The maker, concealing his astonishment and amusement, politely requested his customer's attention to a heraldic book in his office, asking him to select for himself. The doctor's eye was so struck with the different plates that he demanded that each should be reproduced on his brougham. The heraldic painter of the establishment subsequently flatly refused to prostitute his art by painting two coats of arms on one carriage, and combined the two escutcheons into one, so that the happy doctor now lolls in his carriage in blissful knowledge that the admiring world can see upon his carriage door the arms of the Ducal House of Beaufort quartered upon those of the ancient Berkeley family.

Fire arms as well as coats of arms must pay their tribute to the post-office, and every shot-gun in the kingdom represents two dollars and fifty cents a year to the Government, and not only must the hunter pay for his gun, but also for the game and his gamekeeper, for each of which he must take out a yearly license.

The post-office did not arrive at its present efficiency at a bound. It sprang "full armed" from the brain of genius, but attained its splendid development through generations of slow progress. Letters originally were sent by private messengers, afterward by "common carriers," who began about the year 1500 to traverse the country with their pack horses. Sometime before this, however, traveling "by post," that is, with relays of horses, came into being, and sometimes letters were thus sent, as is proved by the writing, "Haste, post, haste," found on the backs of letters written about the sixteenth century. "Post haste" we now use as a synonym for great rapidity, but it may well be questioned if we should be satisfied in this age of steam and electricity with the speed of the post when the expression originated, which was about seven miles an hour. —Bristol (Eng.) by N. National Republican.

Charles Green, of West Virginia, proposed he loved Ella Foster, and, as [Ga] parents objected, he got two friends to treat her out of the house one night, secure a preacher. When everything was ready, Charles remarked that he guessed he wouldn't marry for a month or so. Then the two friends, disgusted with Charles, covered him with their revolvers. The marriage took place. —St. Louis Post.

The Indians in Nevada on first seeing the first transcontinental telegraph called this wonder by the queer name of "We-ente-mo-ke-to-pepe," which means "wire-rope express." —Chicago Times.

Barbed wire fencing has fallen ten per cent. in price within the last three months. Cows have got so they use it for a hair brush. —Detroit Post.

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—One-third of the Lord Mayors of London, during the past twenty-four years, have been schoolers.

—Eleven street car conductors in Cincinnati have been presented with \$100 each for long and faithful services.

—Prof. Norton says that the earth receives about 3,000,000,000 of meteors every year, but they only increase the size of the earth one inch in 100,000,000 years.

—A Detroit detective promises to vanquish any one who will compete with him in the matter of pie eating, "without regard to sex, color, politics or anything else." —Detroit Post.

—Fifteen and twenty dollar bouquets are to be dispensed with this winter among the "best" people of the metropolis, and only the tiniest bunches of flowers are to be in favor. —N. Y. Graphic.

—Two little daughters of Franklin Phillips, of Braxton County, West Virginia, put powder into the fire so as to make it burn up. One of them is now sightless, and the other's life is despaired of. —St. Louis Post.

—George William Curtis told the Staten Islanders, at their late celebration, that "this precious stone, Staten Island, set in their silver seas, is the most resplendent gem of the imperial crown of the great metropolis." —N. Y. Times.

—A letter was recently received at the White House from a citizen in Somerset, Kan. This citizen humbly petitioned to have the name of the place changed to Hand-spring. The reason he gave was: "There are several men in the town who can turn hand-springs, but not one who can turn a Somerset." —Chicago Tribune.

—Some time since a Hartford man presented a friend of his a pet squirrel which he had raised from its infancy. The next day the pet was gone, having forced its way out of the cage. Two days later it put in its appearance at the old homestead, wet, muddy and hungry, having traveled a distance of thirteen miles. —Hartford Post.

—Among the latest batch of erratic suicides are these: A Texas lawyer, because he lost a case; a Kansas miller, because a dam he had just built did not hold water to turn his wheel; an Indiana man, because an old woman would not get well; a Maryland woman, because she got religion; an Illinois farmer, because the plowing did not suit him. —Philadelphia Record.

—Among the incidents of the recent sale on Lake Erie are the rescue by the life-saving crew at Cleveland of sixteen lives, the imperiled sailors being brought to shore in baskets, and the drowning of four duck-hunters at Erie, who had no faith in the Signal Service and put off in spite of the warning of the Weather Bureau and the advice of friends. —Cleveland Leader.

—Judge Swan, who has passed some months on the Queen Charlotte Islands, in the interest of the United States Fish Commission, reports the discovery of a new food fish, which he calls the black cod. He says it is one of the finest fish he has ever seen, and is caught in great numbers by dredging in deep water, and, when salted, is more tender and palatable than codfish. —N. Y. Sun.

—Mr. Barnum reluctantly confesses that the profits of the "greatest show on earth" last year were \$700,000. The circus business is coming up, and will soon rival journalism as a profession. The girl that slides down the wire from the center pole to the ground gets a bigger salary than any editor on earth, even if she hasn't spent four years of her life acquiring a college education. —Chicago Inter Ocean.

—Thousands of young American swells are said by a fashionable tailor to wear nothing of American make. Their measures are sent to London tailors, hatters, and furnisiers, who provide the articles ordered very promptly. It is true that garments thus obtained are liable to prove poor fits, but there are English tailors here also, whose sole employment is to complete imported suits to make them fit. —N. Y. Mail.

—Five young men started to take their girls out to ride at Lancaster, N. H., recently, in single carriages. In turning a corner the forward team tipped over, and the other four teams were going so fast that they could not be stopped, but one after the other became a part of the general wreck, until it contained five teams and ten people. No serious injury resulted to the young people, but two carriages were badly wrecked. —Boston Herald.

—Dr. J. P. Barnum, of Louisville, who recently returned from the wonderful salt and gas well in Brandenburg, Ky., tells a Commercial reporter that the flow is as great as it was at the time of its discovery in 1865. The well which is 550 feet deep, has been tubed so as to separate the gas from the water. The Doctor's tests showed an hourly escape of 57,120 cubic feet of gas, with a velocity warranting a company in laying a pipe to Louisville, forty miles distant, to supply the city with light and power. —Mexico will never be inhabited to any great extent by Anglo-Saxons, according to Don Patrio Milmo, a wealthy capitalist of Monterey, for the very good reason that there is too much available land in the United States for people to settle on rather than east their lot among Spaniards and Indians in Mexico. Those English-speaking people who are now there are generally adventurers with no money, "but plenty of brass and wind," and Don Patrio predicts their downfall and final expulsion in the course of time. —Chicago Times.

—A law forbidding rum-sellers to maintain such obstructions in their windows as will prevent a free view of the premises is on the Massachusetts statute book, but in Boston it is commonly disregarded. Some Prohibitionists argue that to open these places to public view increases the temptation to drink. It is also said that young persons who have not yet contracted a strong appetite for alcoholic liquors, and with it a loss of self-respect, will go by a hundred saloons that are complying with the screen law to enter one where they will be concealed while taking their drink. As a rule, the worst barrooms are those that obey the law as to screens. —Boston Transcript.

—"God Forbid" is the name of an Arizona town. —Chicago Herald.

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contains an antidote for all malarial disorders which, so far as known, is used in no other remedy. It contains no Quinine, nor any mineral nor deleterious substance whatever, and consequently produces no injurious effect upon the constitution, but leaves the system as healthy as it was before the attack.

WE WARRANT AYER'S AGUE CURE to cure every case of Fever and Ague, Intermittent or Chill Fever, Remittent Fever, Malarial Ague, Bilious Fever, and Liver Complaint caused by malaria. In case of failure, after due trial, dealers are authorized, by our circular dated July 1st, 1882, to refund the money.

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can only be cured by a thorough purification of the blood. If this is neglected, the disease perpetuates its taint through generation after generation. Among its earlier symptomatic developments are Eczema, Cutaneous Eruptions, Tumors, Boils, Carbuncles, Erysipelas, Purulent Ulcers, Nervous and Physical Collapse, etc. If allowed to continue, Rheumatism, Scrofulous Catarrh, Kidney and Liver Diseases, Tubercular Consumption, and various other dangerous or fatal maladies, are produced by it.

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Is the only powerful and always reliable blood-purifying medicine. It is so effective an alterative that it eradicates from the system Hereditary Scrofula, and the kindred poisons of contagious diseases and mercury. At the same time it enriches and vitalizes the blood, restoring healthful action to the vital organs and rejuvenating the entire system. This great

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is composed of the genuine Honduras Sarsaparilla, with Yellow Dock, Nettle-root, the Bitter of Potassium and Iron, and other ingredients of great potency, carefully and scientifically compounded. Its formula is generally known to the medical profession, and the best physicians constantly prescribe AYER'S SARSAPARILLA as a

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For all diseases caused by the vitiation of the blood. It is concentrated to the highest practicable degree, far beyond any other preparation for which like effects are claimed, and is therefore the cheapest, as well as the best blood-purifying medicine, in the world.

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PREPARED BY
Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.
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No other complaints are so insidious in their attack as those affecting the throat and lungs: none so trifled with by the majority of sufferers. The ordinary cough or cold, resulting perhaps from a trifling or unconscious exposure, is often but the beginning of a fatal sickness. AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL, a well-proven remedy in a forty years' fight with throat and lung diseases, and should be taken in all cases without delay.

A Terrible Cough Cured.

"In 1871 I took a severe cold, which affected my lungs. I had a terrible cough, and passed night after night without sleep. The doctors gave me up. I tried AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL, which relieved my lungs, induced sleep, and afforded me the rest necessary for the recovery of my strength. By the continued use of the PECTORAL a permanent cure was effected. I am now 62 years old, hale and hearty, and am satisfied your CHERRY PECTORAL saved me."

ROCKINGHAM, Vt., July 15, 1882.

Croup - A Mother's Tribute.

"While in the country last winter my little boy, three years old, was taken ill with croup. It seemed as if he would die from strangulation. One of the family suggested the use of AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL, a bottle of which was always kept in the house. This was tried in small and frequent doses, and to our delight in less than half an hour the little patient was breathing easily. The doctor said that the CHERRY PECTORAL had saved my darling's life. Can you wonder at our gratitude? Sincerely yours,

Mrs. EMMA GEDNEY."

150 West 125th St., New York, May 16, 1882.

"I have used AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL in my family for several years, and do not hesitate to pronounce it the most effective remedy for coughs and colds we have ever tried."

A. J. CRANE."

Lake Crystal, Minn., March 13, 1882.

"I suffered for eight years from Bronchitis, and after trying many remedies with no success, I was cured by the use of AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL. JOSEPH WALDEN."

Byhalia, Miss., April 5, 1882.

"I cannot say enough in praise of AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL, believing as I do that but for its use I should long since have died from lung troubles."

E. BRAGDON."

Faustine, Texas, April 22, 1882.

PREPARED BY

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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Mitchell and LaBelle Wagons, Buggies, Spring Wagons, and Sulkeys,

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